

RIPTA to Hold Public Hearings on Proposed Fare Increase and Service Modifications

Steep Budget Deficits Driving Proposal

**Hearings Scheduled for July 6th, 7th and 8th
in Providence, Warwick, Barrington, Newport and Narragansett**

PROVIDENCE, RI, May 28, 2010...The Board of Directors of the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) voted on May 24, 2010, to hold public hearings on proposed fare increases and service modifications in all five Rhode Island counties on July 6, 2010, July 7, 2010 and July 8, 2010. The Authority announced that the proposed fare hikes and modifications in service statewide are due to a carryover deficit from FY 2010 (which began July 1, 2009) of \$1.6 million and a \$2.1 million shortfall for FY 2011 that is caused principally by a reduction in revenue from the state gas tax and the high cost of fuel to operate the system.

The proposed fare increases would raise the base fare from \$1.75 to \$2.00, and impact the cost of RIPTIKs, 10-Ride Passes, 15-Ride Passes, One-Day Passes, 7-Day Passes, Monthly Passes and ADA Fares. If approved by the RIPTA board, the fare increases would take effect September 1, 2010, and the proposed service reductions would take effect in August 2010 when RIPTA implements their regular fall service changes.

Proposed Fare Increases

The Authority is proposing to increase fares as follows:

Fare Media	Current	Proposed
Base Fare	\$1. 75	\$ 2.00
Senior/Disabled (off peak)	\$.85	\$ 1.00
RIPTIKS (10)	\$17.50	\$20.00
15-RIDE Pass	\$23.00	\$26.00
Monthly Pass	\$55.00	\$62.00
ADA (Ride Program)	\$ 3.50	\$ 4.00

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“Unfortunately, we have to seek a fare increase and modifications to our service to balance the budget. The service modifications will be designed to retain as much service as possible while reducing costs and maximizing efficiency. RIPTA will continue to implement cost-effective reliability improvements including adjusting running times to compensate for congestion. We continually strive to provide the best possible quality of service to our customers with the current funding system we do have. ” said RIPTA General Manager Alfred J. Moscola.

Under state law the Authority must post the hearing schedule 30 days prior to holding any public hearings. The posting will appear in area

newspapers on Tuesday, June 1, 2010, enabling public hearings to begin on Tuesday, July 6, 2010. All input from the public at the hearings will go to RIPTA's Board of Directors in July and the board will vote on the fare increases and service modifications proposals at its July 19, 2010 Board meeting.

Schedule for Public Hearings on Proposed Fare Increases

The public hearings will be held in Warwick, Providence, Barrington, Narragansett and Newport according to the following schedule:

Tuesday, July 6, 2010

Newport Public Library

300 Spring Street

Newport, RI 02840

Time: 2 pm-4 pm & 6 pm-7:45pm

Tuesday, July 6, 2010

Warwick City Hall

Council Chambers

3275 Post Road

Warwick, RI 02886

Time: 2 pm-4 pm & 6 pm-8pm

Wednesday, July 7, 2010

Barrington Public Library

2nd Floor Auditorium

281 County Road

Barrington, RI 02806

Time: 2 pm-4 pm & 6 pm-8pm

Wednesday, July 7, 2010

Narragansett Town Hall

Assembly Room

25 Fifth Avenue

Narragansett, RI 02882

Time: 2 pm-4 pm & 6 pm-8pm

Thursday, July 8, 2010

University of Rhode Island

Feinstein Providence Campus

Auditorium

80 Washington Street

Providence, RI 02903

Time: 2 pm-4 pm & 6 pm-8pm

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A 72-hour notice is required for persons with sensory impairment requiring auxiliary aids at public hearings. To request this service, members of the public should contact the RIPTA ADA Coordinator at

401-784-9553 (TDD) or 800-745-5555 (RI Relay TDD).

For information on RIPTA services, passengers may call 781-9400 or visit ripta.com.